

**Ossipee 41251**  
**Public Officials/Selectmen's Meeting**  
**Ossipee Town Hall**  
**Sept 13, 2021 Select**

**NHDOT:** Tobey Reynolds, Project Manager  
Abe DeMaio, Design Team  
Kathy Corliss, Design Team

**Ossipee Selectboard:** Jonathan Smith (Chair); Susan Simpson; Martha Eldridge

Matt Sawyer (Town Administrator); Recording Secretary; TJ Eldridge (DPW); Police representative

Members of the Public

Tobey explained the primary purpose of the project is to improve the roadway riding surface and reduce maintenance needs, with the objective of getting overlays to last 10+ years, which is not obtainable with the current road conditions. The pavement, an underlying 1930's era concrete slab, and associated drainage pipes would be removed. New drainage, select materials and pavement would be constructed similar to the existing width, with a formalized 5ft shoulder. Standard 6ft ditches would be constructed to improve storm runoff management and provide for snow storage. The truck climbing lane will be converted to a TWLTL (two way left turn lane), citing recommendations from the 2016 RSA (Road Safety Audit) conducted on the Route 16 corridor. No significant changes in horizontal or vertical alignment are proposed. Currently there are 22 different ROW impacts proposed. The project will include minimal utility work or adjustments. Environmental requirements will include securing a standard dredge and fill permit, and archeological monitoring during slope work near the cemetery. Traffic Control will include temporary widening to accommodate 2-way traffic during the majority of the project. Drainage improvements requiring one way, alternating two-way traffic, may be done at night or outside the busy summer season. The project is also considering incorporating a larger pipe size (an increase from 24" to 48") in the vicinity of New England Forestry Foundation (Thissell-Smith Memorial Forest) to allow for wildlife crossing.

Concerns expressed:

1. Van Dyke (Parcel 9): *(Prior to the meeting)* Expressed concern with the current traffic noise levels inside his home, and with proposed SB thru traffic being forced closer to his residence due to conversion of the SB truck passing lane to a TWLTL; concern with proximity of the road work to his well (235+75 LT) which is only about 28' off the current edge of pavement.
2. Elizabeth Gillette: *(Prior to the meeting)* Inquired if a wildlife deterrent vegetation could be considered that would discourage wildlife from grazing next to the road in newly opened up areas; commented on increased average driving speed of automobiles thru the recently improved section of NH 16 south of the project being discussed.
3. Jonathan Smith: Expressed concerns with
  - a. Proposed tree removals and slope stability in front of the Bertwell cemetery (Response: While excavation is anticipated in front of the cemetery, the final slope will be similar in grade to the existing one and will stay inside the ROW with no impacts to the cemetery parcel; the anticipated 2:1 slope is flat enough to vegetate and if a steeper slope is necessary, it would be stone lined.)
  - b. Inquired if the power would be upgraded to 3 phase through the project area (Response: Utility upgrades are not a State decision and would be determined by the Utility owner)
  - c. Asked if there would be a point of contact to immediately remedy traffic issues during the construction. (Response: There is a Contract contact during construction but immediate responses during construction operations can be challenging. The State learned a lot from

the Ossipee 10431 experience and as a result temporary widening to maintain 2 lanes of traffic is proposed for this contract. There will be situations where one lane, alternating two-way traffic will be necessary, such as during drainage installations, but the contract will specify that work be done during off peak hours or at night if necessary.)

4. Harry Merrow (Lucy T Smith Trust Sta 233+00 RT): Noted the leach field for this parcel is located directly behind the existing stone wall. (*Survey did locate a leach field in this vicinity*)
5. Lynn Parker inquired if the project could eliminate construction on the weekends noting that traffic volumes Friday thru Sunday were an issue. (Response: Saturday construction is generally allowed, but eliminating traffic impacts during peak times around summer weekends will be considered.)
6. Ash Fischbein (Parcel 26 EDF Realty LLC – Sta 269+00 RT): Noted there is a stormwater detention basin in the northwest corner of the parcel that holds 2+ ft of water in the spring that he hoped could go away. He is looking forward to drainage specifics being provided at the Public Informational meeting that is to be scheduled.
7. Elizabeth Gillette: Expressed concern with
  - a. Conversion of the truck passing lane to a two way left turn lane and possible misuse as a bypass lane. (The intended use of the TWLTL was explained along with the safety advantages of removing left turning vehicles from the thru movements; the truck lane conversion in Chichester was presented as an example conversion with successful results – while temporary backups do occur during peak commuting hours, speeds and accidents have been reduced, and reported misuse is not common.)
  - b. Approved of consideration being given to oversizing a drainage crossing in the Thissell-Smith Memorial forest area (NE Forestry Foundation) to accommodate wildlife passage in the area, noting presence of turtles on the property.
8. Jonathan Smith:
  - a. Inquired if there was a breakdown in the crash data of the number of rear end crashes in the truck lane (Response: The specific number of rear end crashes is not known. While the number of crashes involving more than one vehicle is known, these could be rear end, side swipe, or turning vehicle crashes.)
  - b. Inquired where the Public Informational would be held (Response: In a venue such as the Town Hall gym as it is beneficial to hold the meeting close to the project area).